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## Governor's School and Campus Safety Task Force

### Public Safety Workgroup ~ RECOMMENDATIONS 1/29/13 ~

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#### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION AND LONGER TERM GOALS

*(to be considered after January 31, 2013)*

##### TOPIC: AUXILIARY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER EDUCATOR PROGRAM

- **(28) AUXILIARY LEO EDUCATOR (CAREY):** Law enforcement entities across the Commonwealth and school systems could begin a recruiting program for educators to apply for their department's auxiliary program. The goal would be to hire one auxiliary per elementary...or middle, or high school. The person would apply and go through the same hiring process as other auxiliary officers.

##### TOPIC: CONCEALED WEAPONS

- **(62) HB1557 (BOB MARSHALL'S BILL)**

##### TOPIC: Campus Safety

- **(29) CAMPUS SAFETY (DCJS):** Review the recommendations as set forth in *HJR122 Final Report: Study on Campus Safety* to review strategies for implementation of relevant recommendations to enhance school and campus safety.

##### TOPIC: INFORMATION SHARING

- **(30) INFORMATION SHARING (VSP):** Creation of Mental Health Database of Persons Involuntarily Committed for Mass Violence Ideation.
- **(31) INFORMATION SHARING (VSP):** Currently, there is a national initiative that provides law enforcement with another tool to help prevent terrorism and other related criminal activity by establishing a national capacity for gathering, documenting, processing, analyzing, and sharing suspicious activity. The Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) Initiative (NSI) is a collaborative effort led by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and state, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement partners. The public, our school systems, local and state agencies would be educated and trained in regards to "what to report", "who to report information to", and "what can I do". The Commonwealth of Virginia would need to have a public awareness campaign similar to the Department of Homeland Security's "See Something, Say Something" campaign. An example of a campaign that Virginia could adopt would read something similar to "*Our Children, Our Schools, Our Responsibility*." This campaign not only has a motto that is easy to remember, but it would provide the needed outreach, education, training and reporting methods to all Virginia Citizens.
- **(32) INFORMATION SHARING (VSP):** Encourage the use of the VSP "Threat Matrix Protocol" by all schools (to include colleges and universities). Provide training to school personnel (teachers, administration, etc.) to identify, and document the behavioral indicators used in the TMP.
- **(33) INFORMATION SHARING (VSP):** Have crime prevention specialists from the Virginia State Police (VSP) review school security data collected by the Virginia Center for School Safety (VCSS) to evaluate for content, effectiveness, and identification of best practices. These best practices would be distributed in a quarterly newsletter to all Virginia school divisions.

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**TOPIC: PRACTICE AND IMPROVE PLANS**

- **(34) PRACTICE/IMPROVE PLANS (VSP):** Implement a “School Watch” program to provide the framework necessary to proactively engage educators, law enforcement professionals, and community volunteers in a community policing strategy designed to detect and deter potential hazards to our children’s learning environment.

**TOPIC: SAFETY AUDITS AND CRISIS/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLANS**

- **(36) SAFETY AUDIT AND CRISIS/EMERGENCY PLANS (DCJS):** Host National School Safety Summit to convene leaders from other school safety centers across the nation to identify and share best practices and lessons learned.
- **(37) SAFETY AUDIT AND CRISIS/EMERGENCY PLANS (DCJS):** Host School Safety and Technology Vendor Fair – highlight latest technology and private industry safety standards available to school personnel to include cost benefits of access control systems, electronic notifications, and fencing.
- **(38) SAFETY AUDIT AND CRISIS/EMERGENCY PLANS (DCJS):** Update and expand current Model Crisis Management Plan and Resource Guide with the Department of Education.
- **(39) SAFETY AUDIT AND CRISIS/EMERGENCY PLANS (DCJS):** VCSS provide annual statewide training on conduct of school safety audit inspections for new safety audit team members.
- **(40) UNIFY COMMUNITY PLANS (VDEM):** All school systems localities in Virginia should have a Family Assistance Center (FAC) plan based on the template provided by VDEM and developed in coordination with local emergency management. This plan would unify a community’s response to any incident in the community; involving a school or not.

**TOPIC: SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS**

- **(41) SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS (DCJS):** Conduct statewide survey and research study of law enforcement in school divisions and law enforcement agencies to determine status of SRO in the state and effectiveness thereof.
- **(42) SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS (DCJS):** Disseminate the SRO and SSO basic training curriculum to school divisions and law enforcement agencies.
- **(43) SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS (DCJS):** Highlight School Resource Officer and School Security Officer Basic Training to promote best practices to school divisions.
- **(63) HB1730 (COLE’S BILL) SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS.**

**TOPIC: THREAT ASSESSMENT**

- **(44) UTILIZE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM (ARRINGTON):** These predictive capabilities would allow for early identification of emerging issues and allow for the diffusion of problems early on through predetermined and set protocols to be developed by the appropriate Task Force work group. This would operate similarly to the Early Warning Systems that many law enforcement agencies use.

**TOPIC: TRAINING AND RESOURCES**

- **(45) TRAINING AND RESOURCES (DCJS):** Assist the Department of Education in the dissemination and training of implementing student assistance programs.
- **(46) TRAINING AND RESOURCES (DCJS):** Develop and offer Mental Health 101 courses for law enforcement.
- **(47) TRAINING AND RESOURCES (DCJS):** Establish statewide review teams/a cadre of instructors to assist localities in developing/improving emergency plans and processes.
- **(48) TRAINING AND RESOURCES (DCJS):** Produce and disseminate best practices information to school divisions through conferences, trainings, and specialized forums.

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- **(49) TRAINING AND RESOURCES (DCJS):** Provide funding for evidence-based programs designed to address bullying and other forms of student conflict.
  - **(50) TRAINING AND RESOURCES (DCJS):** Review and evaluate the Secure Virginia Panel recommendations from 2004 reports to determine relevancy of recommendations for school safety.
  - **(51) TRAINING AND RESOURCES (DCJS):** Review and update the “Educators’ Guide to Conducting Emergency Drills”.
  - **(52) TRAINING AND RESOURCES (DCJS):** Review and update the Juvenile Law Handbook.
  - **(53) TRAINING AND RESOURCES (VDEM):** K-12 schools could participate with their respective local Emergency Management and first responder community training and Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP). This training would include specifically being educated on the roles and responsibilities during and after an incident then practicing responding to a scenario developed to test the localities ability to respond and recover from the incident.
  - **(54) TRAINING AND RESOURCES (VDEM):** From a security perspective, individuals conducting school safety audits should receive training on how to conduct them. If it does not already exist, standard training should be developed by the Virginia Center for School Safety and required for all individuals responsible for conducting school safety audits. The class should incorporate elements of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design. Their current class entitled “Application of CPTED in School Security Survey’s” might be sufficient to meet the need.

#### **AWAITING CLARIFICATION (Moved on 1/24/13)**

- **(18) CHANGES IN DEFINITION OF SAFETY AUDIT (VDEM):** The definition of a “school safety audit” in the current legislation states “Solutions and responses *shall* include recommendations for structural adjustments, changes in school safety procedures, and revisions to the school board’s standards for student conduct”. This definition should be changed to “*may* include”, as structural adjustments, school safety procedures, and revisions to standards of conduct for students are not always required.

#### **REVIEWED BY WORKGROUP ON 1/24/13 and MOVED TO NON-LEGISLATIVE**

- **(20 PASSED) FULL SITE INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS (VSP):** Make it mandatory that a certified CPS trooper/officer conduct a full site survey of each school on a regular basis (every 2-3 years).
- **(24) MANDATORY TRAINING FOR EDUCATORS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT IN IMPLEMENTING SECURITY MEASURES (VSP):** VSP provide classes to all educators and administrators on active shooter situations, conducted crime prevention assessments of schools, provided walk through assessments of lock-down procedures, and worked together with the schools and other law enforcement partners to enhance safety and security. There currently is no legislative history to mandate this type of program.
- **(26) SEMI-ANNUAL PRACTICE OF CRISIS PLANS (VDEM):** From a preparedness perspective, each school should be required to exercise their crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plans semi-annually and report on the status of this exercise to their local Emergency Coordinator and the Virginia Center for School Safety.

#### **ADDITIONAL NON-LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS RECEIVED 1/28/13**

- **(55) ENHANCE VIDEO SURVEILLANCE (MIDDLETON):** Increase video surveillance systems at all schools. Many schools have no video surveillance, or limited surveillance that is accessible. Increasing cameras in existing school facilities provides school administration and law enforcement with another tool to address and/or prevent potential threats to a school’s security.
- **(57) ESTABLISH RECOMMENDED BUILDING DESIGN (MIDDLETON:)** Establish recommended building designs for all school buildings based on type: elementary; middle; high; college, etc. Many facilities in current use today were built in the 1950’s. Clearly, security concerns have dramatically increased since that time. Many schools, built on the ‘campus style’ design cannot be secured adequately.

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- **(58) PROVIDE ACCESS TO SCHOOLS** (*MIDDLETON:*) The current environment has created security related issues in schools that are of such a nature that law enforcement cannot access the school without being 'buzzed' in to the facility. Should an incident occur, police officers would have to "breach" the access point and thereby give away their position of entry.